

Deaf Culture Question of the Week – Sept. 10 - 14, 2012
Bill Newell, Principal Washington School for the Deaf

Who is the famous deaf artist whose painting “Chapel Hall” hangs in the Edwin Miner Gallaudet Memorial Library on the campus of Gallaudet University?

- a) Felix Kowalewski
- b) Regina Hughes
- c) Louis Frisino
- d) Betty Miller

Answer “a” – Felix Kowalewski was a very accomplished artist, his work praised by the art community at large during his lifetime and exhibited in many prestigious galleries including the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., the San Francisco Palace of Fine Arts and the Walt Disney Studios in Burbank, California. He graduated from the New York School for the Deaf (Fanwood) in 1932 and from Gallaudet University. He studied art during high school at the New York School of Fine and Applied Arts. One of Mr. Kowalewski’s pieces, “Chapel Hall” in oil is proudly displayed in the Edwin Miner Gallaudet Memorial Library on the campus of Gallaudet University.

Although a very accomplished artist, poet and writer, Mr. Kowalewski preferred to be remembered as an art teacher. He taught at four different schools for the deaf including the California School for the Deaf at Berkeley (now Fremont), the Michigan School for the Deaf, the West Virginia School for the Deaf, and the California School for the Deaf at Riverside. Many young and aspiring deaf artists were fortunate to have Mr. Kowalewski as their art teacher. [Cited from: Gannon (1981), *Deaf Heritage*, pp. 123-124].

Note: All of the person’s mentioned in the answer choices are accomplished deaf artists. You can read more about these artists and many others in *Deaf Heritage*, pp. 93-156.

Note that

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